

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new Claim 6 as follows.

1. (Previously Presented) A method of recycling a process cartridge containing a toner, comprising the steps of:

crushing a process cartridge containing a recovered toner to disassemble the main component parts thereof and recovering the toner by suction;

separating metal materials, including at least one of ferrous materials and aluminum material from other materials of the main component parts of the process cartridge disassembled in said crushing and disassembling step; and

melting the separated metal materials to thereby change the separated metal materials to forms capable of reuse as ferrous materials and/or aluminum materials.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of recycling a process cartridge containing a toner according to claim 1,

wherein said crushing step is performed in a disassembly treatment chamber,

wherein said crushing step further comprises the step of:

transferring the disassembled major component parts of the process cartridge from the disassembly treatment chamber to a toner separation chamber adjacent to the disassembly treatment chamber; and

causing an impact force to act on the disassembled major component parts of the process cartridge in the toner separation chamber to separate the toner from the disassembled major

component parts of the process cartridge and, at the same time, recovering the separated toner by suction,

wherein said metal materials separating step comprises the step of extracting the metal materials from said disassembled major component parts of the process cartridge by use of magnetic separation means and eddy current separation means, and

wherein said melting step comprises the step of melting the extracted metal materials.

3. (Currently) The method of recycling a process cartridge including a toner according to claim 2, wherein said extracting step extracts metal materials of a purity of not less than 90%.

4. (Previously Presented) A method of recycling metal materials constituting a process cartridge containing a toner, comprising the steps of:

crushing the process cartridge to disassemble photosensitive drum parts, charging roller parts, cleaning blade parts and development sleeve parts of the process cartridge and to separate the photosensitive drum parts, the charging roller parts, the cleaning blade parts and the development sleeve parts from container parts of the process cartridge made of a resin material while recovering the toner by suction;

extracting metal materials from the crushed and separated parts of the process cartridge by separating dissimilar materials by use of magnetic separation means, eddy current separation means and gravity separation means; and

recycling the extracted materials.

5. (Previously Presented) A method of recycling metal materials of a process cartridge containing a toner, said method comprising the steps of:

crushing the process cartridge to such an extent that the structural form of the process cartridge is changed and so that a process cartridge container portion made of a resin material, and a charging roller, a cleaning blade, a development sleeve and a photosensitive drum of the process cartridge are disassembled, and recovering the toner by suction;

separating each component material of the container portion, the charging roller, the cleaning blade, the development sleeve and the photosensitive drum of process cartridge; and

reusing metal materials separated in said separating step.

6. (New) A method of recycling a process cartridge containing a toner, comprising the steps of:

crushing a process cartridge containing a toner to disassemble the process cartridge into main component parts thereof and recovering the toner by suction,

separating main component parts containing metal materials from other main component parts,

crushing the separated main component parts containing metal materials to disassemble the separated main component parts containing metal materials into metal materials and other materials, and

separating the metal materials from the other materials.